

Serial No.: 10/029,662
Group Art Unit: 2664

REMARKS

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 19, 22, 33, 37, 49 and 59 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Regarding claim 19, the allowable subject matter has been rewritten in independent form in the base claim 9 to be allowable, and claim 19 has been cancelled.

Regarding claim 22, the allowable subject matter has been rewritten in independent form in the base claim 20 to be allowable, and claim 22 has been cancelled.

Regarding claim 33, the allowable subject matter has been rewritten in independent form in the base claim 23 to be allowable, and claim 33 has been cancelled.

Regarding claim 37, the allowable subject matter has been rewritten in independent form in the base claim 35 to be allowable, and claim 37 has been cancelled.

Regarding claim 49, the allowable subject matter has been rewritten in independent form in the base claim 39 to be allowable, and claim 49 has been cancelled.

Regarding claim 59, the allowable subject matter has been rewritten in independent form in the base claim 52 to be allowable, and claim 59 has been cancelled.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 9, 20, 23, 35, 39, and 52 are now allowable.

Serial No.: 10/029,662
Group Art Unit: 2664

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

Claims 1-18, 20,21, 39-48, 50-58, and 60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Zitting et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,584,148 B1, hereinafter "Zitting").

Claims 1-8 have been cancelled so the rejections are moot with regard to these claims.

Claim 9 has been amended to be allowable, and claims 10-18 are allowable as depending from allowable claim 9.

Claim 20 has been amended to be allowable, and claim 21 is allowable as depending from allowable claim 20.

Claim 39 has been amended to be allowable, and claims 40-48 and 50-51 are allowable as depending from allowable claim 39.

Claim 52 has been amended to be allowable, and claims 53-58 and 60 are allowable as depending from allowable claim 52.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 9-18, 20-21, 39-48, 50-58, and 60 are allowable.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claims 23-28, 31, 32, 34-36 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zitting et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,584,148 B1, hereinafter "Zitting") in view of Jollota (U.S. Patent No. 6,295,339 B1, hereinafter "Jollota").

Claim 23 has been amended to be allowable and claims 24-28, 31-32, and 34 are allowable as depending from allowable claim 23.

Claim 35 has been amended to be allowable and claims 36 and 38 are allowable as depending from allowable claim 39.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 23-28, 31-32, 34-36, and 38 are allowable.

Serial No.: 10/029,662
Group Art Unit: 2664

Claims 7, 8, 15, 16, 21, 45, 46, 51 and 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zitting et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,584,148 B1, hereinafter "Zitting") in view of Adams, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,444,782 A, hereinafter "Adams").

Claims 7 and 8 have been cancelled so the rejections are moot with regard to these claims.

Regarding claims 15 and 16, these claims depend from allowable claim 9.

Regarding claim 21, this claim depends from allowable claim 20.

Regarding claims 45, 46, and 51, these claims depend from allowable claim 39.

Regarding claim 56, this claim depends from allowable claim 52.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 15, 16, 21, 45, 46, 51 and 56.

Claims 29, 30, and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zitting et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,584,148 B1, hereinafter "Zitting") in view of Jollota (U.S. Patent No. 6,295,339 B1, hereinafter "Jollota"), and further in view of Adams, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,444,782 A, hereinafter "Adams").

Regarding claims 29 and 30, these claims depend from allowable claim 23.

Regarding claim 36, this claim depends from allowable claim 35.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted claims 29, 30, and 36 are allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested. Allowance of claims 9-18, 20-21, 23-32, 34-36, 38-48, 50-58, and 60 at an early date is solicited.

Serial No.: 10/029,662
Group Art Unit: 2664

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including any extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0374 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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